



NEWS RELEASE

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VITO GIACALONE, THIRD-GENERATION GLOUCESTER FISHERMAN, WINS SBA SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

BOSTON – Vito Giacalone, president and chairman of the Government Affairs Committee of the Northeast Seafood Coalition, received the U.S. Small Business Administration's *Special Achievement Award* from Mark S. Hayward, SBA Massachusetts Acting District Director, at the Northeast Seafood Coalition's annual meeting on April 29, 2004 at Gloucester City Hall.

Giacalone was recognized with this Special SBA Achievement Award because of his tireless efforts crafting a proposal to an amendment, Amendment 13, which will impact the entire New England fishing industry. He is president of the Gloucester Fisherman's Association, executive board member, active board member, and chairman of the Government Affairs Committee of the Seafood Coalition. He has represented the NSC at industry-related workshops and hearings, both locally and nationally. Giacalone was nominated for this award by Gloucester Mayor John Bell.

According to Mayor Bell, "Vito took the lead in breaking the logjam between the fishing community and those who were pressing for more draconian measures. At great personal sacrifice, Vito volunteered many hours to insure the survival of the 400 year-old tradition of providing a protein source for America's table."

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“This SBA Special Achievement Award honors the best small business has to offer, and Vito Giacalone is an outstanding choice,” said SBA Regional Administrator Jeffrey Butland. “This is an outstanding testimonial, not only to his accomplishments, but to his commitment and dedication to the New England fishing industry. I join my SBA colleagues in congratulating Vito Giacalone on this significant achievement.”

“Vito Giacalone’s unwavering commitment to the New England fishing industry is nothing short of spectacular,” said SBA Acting Director Hayward. “As a third generation Gloucester fisherman, he understands better than most, the issues this industry faces and the solutions that will work.”

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